



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

m/05/02

APR 19 1984

Dr. Melvin T. Smith
State Historic Preservation Officer
Utah State Historical Society
300 Rio Grande
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Re: Bingham Canyon Open Pit
Copper Mine
Salt Lake City,
Salt Lake Cty., UT

Dear Dr. Smith:

We are pleased to inform you that the boundary proposed for the above property has been formally established by the National Park Service. The property is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and is eligible for the benefits of listing described in earlier correspondence. We gave careful consideration to the comments we received and in some cases the documentation or boundary has been revised if the National Park Service concurred with the comments. The date of the Keeper of the National Register's signature on the enclosed form is the date the boundary was formally established.

We appreciate your cooperation and interest in the National Historic Landmarks program.

Sincerely,

Carol D. Shull

Carol D. Shull
Chief of Registration
National Register of Historic Places
Interagency Resources Division

Enclosure

0005

United States Department of the Interior
National Park ServiceNational Register of Historic Places
Inventory—Nomination Form

For NPS use only

received

date entered

See instructions in *How to Complete National Register Forms*
Type all entries—complete applicable sections

1. Name

historic Bingham Canyon Mine

and or common Bingham Canyon Mine

2. Location

street & number Sixteen miles southwest of Salt Lake City on Utah 48 — not for publication

city, town Salt Lake City ☒ vicinity of

state Utah code 49 county Salt Lake code 035

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industrial
		<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property

name Utah Copper Division, Kennecott (Mr. Robert A. Malone, Dir., Environmental Affairs)

street & number 10 East South Temple, Salt Lake City, Utah 84147

city, town — vicinity of state

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Office of the County Clerk

street & number City and County Building

city, town Salt Lake City state Utah

6. Representation in Existing Surveys

title Historic Sites Survey has this property been determined eligible? — yes — no

date ☒ federal — state — county — local

depository for survey records Historic Sites Survey

city, town Washington, D.C. 20240 state

7. Description

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☐ altered
☒ expanding

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date _____

Describe the present and original (if known) physical appearance

The Bingham Canyon Mine (open pit copper) is terraced into approximate 50' levels with ramp access between levels. More terraces are added as the mine deepens. In 1983, the mine was more than 2.3 miles wide and a half mile deep. Waste dumps formed from the removal of over burden can be seen from Salt Lake City. Ore is removed from the mine by railroad cars which exit through one of three tunnels or from the edge of the pit. A visitor observation point provides a comprehensive view of the pit.

The boundary line is a rectangle that encompasses the mine pit and its interior. The perimeter of the mine pit is relatively fixed for the next 10 years.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Lancroft, Hubert H., History of Utah, 1889.
Rickard, Thomas A., A History of American Mining, 1932.
Snell, Charles W., "Bingham Canyon Open Pit Copper Mine," Historic Sites
Survey report, 1966.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 2000

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References

A

1	2
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4	0	4	3	6	0
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4	4	8	8	0	0	0
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Zone Easting Northing

B

1	2
---	---

4	0	4	3	2	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	4	8	4	0	5	0
---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Zone Easting Northing

C

1	2
---	---

4	0	1	1	0	0
---	---	---	---	---	---

4	4	8	4	1	8	0
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D

1	2
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4	0	1	1	6	0
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4	4	8	8	0	8	0
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E

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F

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Verbal boundary description and justification

The boundary of the Bingham Canyon Mine is delineated by the polygon whose vertices are marked and situated by the UTM References listed above.

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Stephen Lissandrello, Historian, Landmarks Boundary Review Project

organization Historic Sites Survey, National Park Service date 12/20/75

street & number 1100 L Street, N.W. telephone 202-523-5464

city or town Washington, state D.C. 20240

12. State Historic Preservation Officer Certification

The evaluated significance of this property within the state is:

____ national ____ state ____ local

As the designated State Historic Preservation Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service.

State Historic Preservation Officer signature _____

title _____ date _____

For NPS use only

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register

date 4/16/84

Keeper of the National Register

Attest:

date _____

Chief of Registration

8. Significance

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration-settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder Architect

Statement of Significance (in one paragraph)

The Bingham Canyon Mine was the first open-pit copper mine in the world. Initiated in 1904, it remained the most productive of all the low-grade copper mines which soon appeared. Today it still yields about 14 percent of all U.S. copper production.

Bingham Canyon flourished as a scene of gold and silver mining from 1863 to 1893. In 1887 Colonel Enos A. Wall discovered and filed claim to the vast deposit of low-grade copper ore that was later to become the open pit mine. With the gold and silver mining still highly profitable, Wall's efforts to finance a copper mining operation were unsuccessful, and in 1903 he sold the property on option to a group of investors who had become interested in the prospect through the efforts of Daniel C. Jackling. Jackling had previously investigated the property and has generally been credited with initiating and promoting the concepts for mining and processing the relatively "low grade" copper ore deposits that has since resulted in open pit copper mines being developed throughout the world. In 1903 the Utah Copper Company was organized and in 1904 completed the Copperton Mill. From 1904 through 1982 the mine has yielded 1,585,936,689 tons of ore, from which 24,696,043,506 pounds of copper were extracted. The immense output of this mine lifted Utah from the ranks of the minor copper-producing states in 1902 to fourth place in the nation by 1919.

BINGHAM CANYON OPEN PIT MINE
SALT LAKE CITY VIC., UTAH

USGS 7.5 MINUTE SERIES

BINGHAM CANYON, UTAH (1952 PHOTO
REVISED 1969)

UTM REFERENCE POINTS

A: 12/404360/4488000

B: 12/404320/4484050

C: 12/401100/4484180

D: 12/401160/4488080

